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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/618,480

07/11/2003

Arvind Kumar

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01/06/2009

INTEL/BSTZ

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

1279 OAKMEAD PARKWAY

SUNNYVALE, CA 94085-4040

EXAMINER

ISMAIL, SHAWKI SAIF

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2455

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/06/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/618,480	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KUMAR, ARVIND	
	<b>Examiner</b> SHAWKI S. ISMAIL	<b>Art Unit</b> 2455	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-10,12-16,21 and 22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,5-10,12-16,21 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### **RESPONSE TO AMENDMENT**

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment received on October 10, 2008.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12-13, 15, and 21-22 have been amended.

Claims 4, 10 and 17-20 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-16, and 21-22 are pending further examination.

### **The New Grounds of Rejection**

2. Applicant's amendment and arguments have been fully considered, however, they are deemed to be moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102**

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

4. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-16, and 21-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipate by **Fletcher** U.S. Patent No. **7,334,021**.

5. As to claim 1, Fletcher teaches a method of configuring automatic responses to incoming email messages, comprising:

enabling configuration of a plurality of automatic responses, at least one of which is tailored for an incoming email message having a first internal mail type and at least another of which is tailored for incoming email message having an external mail type (refer to Fig. 6A-6D, col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57, a plurality of away messages are created for different groups in the users contact list) ;

examining the incoming email messages to determine the type (refer to Fig. 6A-6D, col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57, incoming messages are examined to determine which group the sender is in); and

responding to the incoming email messages with one of the plurality of automatic responses, the one of the plurality of automatic responses selected according to the type of the incoming email message (refer to Fig. 6A-6D, col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57, responding to the received message with an away message based on the list the sender is in.)

6. As to claim 2, Fletcher teaches the method according to Claim 1 wherein examining the incoming email messages further comprises flagging the email messages according to the type (col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57).

7. As to claim 3, Fletcher teaches the method according to Claim 1 wherein the plurality of automatic response email message further includes at least one automatic response email message that is tailored for an incoming email message having a second internal mail type (col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57).

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8. As to claim 5, Fletcher teaches the method according to Claim 4 wherein the external mail type comprises at least one of a plurality of defined domains (col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57).

9. As to claim 6, Fletcher teaches the method according to Claim 4 wherein each of the internal mail type comprises at least one of a plurality of defined internal organizations (col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57).

10. As to claim 7, Fletcher teaches the method according to Claim 1 wherein enabling configuration of the plurality of automated responses further comprises enabling users to configure the plurality of automated responses via a user interface (col. 9, line 56 - col. 10, lines 57).

11. Claims 8-9, 11-16, and 21-22 do not teach or define any new limitation above claims 1-3, 5-7; therefore, they are rejected for similar reasons.

### Response to Arguments

12. Applicants' arguments have been fully considered however they are deemed to be moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### Contact Information

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached at 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Shawki S Ismail/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2455  
January 5, 2009